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No. D 2337

Date 11/4/33
Translation

April 11, 1933.

Morning

LABOUR

Min Pao and other local newspapers:

THE INSPECTION OF FACTORIES.

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The Social Bureau is conducting an inspection of factories in Chinese controlled territory. As regards the factories in the International Settlement, the S.M.C. desires to make its own inspection. In view of the fact that such inspection of factories by the Settlement authorities is an infringement of China's sovereign rights

the Chinese authorities' deputies to discuss with the S.M.C. the question of inspection because the Settlement authorities have no authority to undertake this inspection. So far no satisfactory result has been attained.

On April 10, the Secretariat of the Municipality of Greater Shanghai sent the following letter to the Chinese Ratepayers Association in the International Settlement:-

"The Secretariat has received a letter from the Mayor of the Municipality of Greater Shanghai bearing on the proposal of the Settlement authorities to call a special meeting of foreign ratepayers to discuss an amendment to Article 34 of the Appendix of the Yang King Pang Land Regulations with the object of enabling the Council to control factories in the International Settlement.

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"The object of the Factory Law is to improve the condition of labourers and also to promote the good relations between employers and employees. If the inspection of factories in the International Settlement, where two-thirds of the factories in Shanghai are located, can not be carried out at the same time as the factory inspection in Chinese controlled territory, it will constitute an obstruction to the inspection of factories in the whole district and will cause factories outside the Settlement to oppose the inspection on the ground that the factories in the Settlement are not being inspected. Despite the negotiations conducted by our deputies with the S.M.C., no satisfactory result has been reached. Since the Council can not ~~of the~~ labour rules and order the ratepayers in the Settlement to observe them (Mr. Wright, Legal Advisor of the Council, stated the above in 1925), it is endeavouring to secure legal support to enable it to control factories in the Settlement by amending the Yang King Pang Regulations.

"It must not be overlooked that the inspection of factories is for the purpose of enforcing the Chinese labour policy and its aim is to lead to the complete development of Chinese industry. The inspection is not an administrative act. The Council is not entitled to resort to the stipulations contained in Article 9 of the Yang King Pang Regulations and to devise means to seize the authority to inspect factories. The territorial rights over the Settlement still belong to China and the Chinese residents in the Settlement are naturally still under the control of the Chinese Government in the same way as are the people living outside the Settlement.

"In order to secure an early enforcement of the inspection of factories in the Settlement, we are willing to open sincere negotiations with the S.M.C."